

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Hirofumi KATO et al.
Title: VISCOUS FLUID COUPLING WITH DRAGGING ROTATION
REDUCTION ARRANGEMENT
Appl. No.: Unassigned
Filing Date: 12/23/2003
Examiner: Unassigned
Art Unit: Unassigned

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 CFR §1.56

Mail Stop PATENT APPLICATION
Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

Applicants submit herewith on Form PTO/SB/08 a listing of the documents cited by or submitted to the U.S. PTO in parent application Serial No10/205,450, filed 07/26/2002. As provided in 37 CFR §1.98(d), copies of the documents are not being provided since they were previously submitted to the United States Patent & Trademark Office in the above-identified parent application.

The submission of any document herewith, which is not a statutory bar, is not intended as an admission that such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application or that such document is considered material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR §1.56(b). Applicants do not waive any rights to take any action which would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove as a competent reference any document which is determined to be a *prima facie* art reference against the claims of the present application.

TIMING OF THE DISCLOSURE

The listed documents are being submitted in compliance with 37 CFR §1.97(b), within three (3) months of the filing date of the application.

RELEVANCE OF EACH DOCUMENT

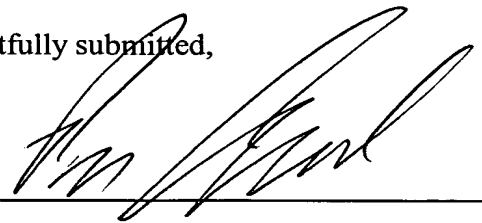
The relevance of the foreign-language documents is explained in the parent application.

Applicants respectfully request that any listed document be considered by the Examiner and be made of record in the present application and that an initialed copy of Form PTO/SB/08 be returned in accordance with MPEP §609.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 CFR §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted,

By



Date December 23, 2003

FOLEY & LARDNER

Customer Number: 22428

Telephone: (202) 945-6162

Facsimile: (202) 672-5399

Pavan K. Agarwal
Attorney for Applicant
Registration No. 40,888

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449B/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT Date Submitted: December 23, 2003 (use as many sheets as necessary)				Complete if Known	
				Application Number	Unassigned
				Filing Date	December 23, 2003
				First Named Inventor	Hirofumi KATOH
				Group Art Unit	Unassigned
				Examiner Name	Unassigned
				Attorney Docket Number	023484-0154
Sheet	1	of	1		

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)			
	A1	5,044,477		BOJAS et al	09/03/91	
	A2	2,337,976		DAVIS	12-28-1943	
	A3	4,633,994		LIGHT	01-06-1987	
	A4	4,790,792		BOPP	12-13-1988	
	A5	4,913,273		MADER	04-03-1990	
	A6	6,085,881		ROBB	07-11-2000	
	A7	5,499,706		KAWADA	03-19-1996	
	A8	5,893,442		LIGHT	04-13-1999	
	A9	6,305,519	B1	KATOH ET AL.	10-23-2001	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Documents	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Office ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
	A10	JP	57-204491			12/82		
	A11	JP	59-128933			08/84		
	A12	JP	03-077825			08/91		
	A13	JP	01-083925			06/89		
	A14	DE	4223678			01/21/93		
	A15	DE	3307566			09/29/83		
	A16	EP	0106581			04/25/84		
	A17	DE	4205225			09/03/92		
	A18	EP	0870943			10/14/98		
	A19	DE	2718723			11/17/77		
	A20	EP	0070111			01/19/83		
	A21	DE	9317085			02/10/94		
	A22	DE	2814468			10/19/78		

OTHER PRIOR ART – NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.) date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ⁶
	A23	Merriman-Webster's Collegiate Dictionary, 10 th ed., Merriman-Webster, Inc., Springfield MA 1997, p. 538	

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
--------------------	-----------------

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Unique citation designation number. ² See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document.

⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, D.C. 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.